

STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

Colonel Danny R. Stebbins
Acting Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion
Chief of Staff

March 3, 2011

Rep. Stephen Dargan, Co-Chairman
Sen. Joan Hartley, Co-Chairman
Public Safety and Security Committee
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106

HB 6445 AN ACT CONCERNING EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEMS

The Department of Public Safety supports this bill.

The Connecticut Emergency Notification System ("CT ENS") protocol working group identified two legislative issues with respect to Connecticut General Statutes Section 28-28a as amended by Public Act 09-86. This proposed bill will address those issues through technical improvements to the emergency notification system legislation which was enacted in 2009, specifically to subsection (a) of section 2 of Public Act 09-86.

The first portion of the legislative proposal eliminates the phrase "life-threatening" from the description of emergency, thus making it easier for authorized users of the CT ENS to determine when the state E 911 database may be used.

The second proposed change is to include "any subscriber or emergency contact information collected in connection with an emergency notification system" within the type of information which is confidential and not subject to disclosure under FOI, as the E911 database is currently protected. This will allow citizens to be able to provide their contact information without compromising their privacy or safety as many citizens now use cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses which may not be currently protected from public disclosure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Col. Danny R. Stebbins".

Colonel Danny R. Stebbins
ACTING COMMISSIONER